



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY:

*Safeguarding
Hoosiers by
Planning,
Preparing and
Responding*

Inside this issue:

JFO Assists Disaster Victims	2
Firefighter Passing Rates Improve, Curriculum Development Moves Forward	2
Rising Heating Costs May Trigger More Home Heating Fires	3
IDHS Putting Finishing Touches on New Indiana Strategy for Homeland Security	3
IDHS to Advance Search and Rescue Training (cont'd)	4
IDHS Will Offer NIMS Courses in 2006	4
From the Desk of Director Dietz (cont'd)	5
Mark Your Calendar/Reminders	5
New IDHS Personnel	5

THE HOOSIER RESPONDER

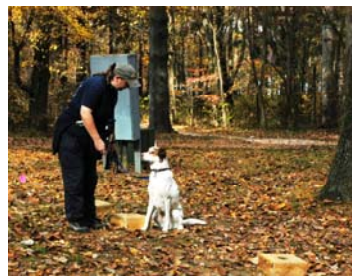
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IDHS to Advance Search and Rescue Training

Search and rescue professionals descended on the scene after a destructive tornado struck southwestern Indiana in early November. In this situation and any disaster scenarios, the training and skills of search and rescue personnel aids local responders in their response and recovery efforts.

In recognition of the key role search and rescue personnel play in a disaster, the IDHS Division of Training created the Search and Rescue Training Advisory Committee (SARTAC). IDHS intends for the committee's work to play a key role in augmenting the Mari Hulman George Search and Rescue Training Center at



Above: Donna Randolph of Midwest Search Dogs and her partner, Duke, working a box line up used to train K9s to alert on a cadaver scent at IDHS' Mari Hulman George Search and Rescue Training Center.

Camp Atterbury, a facility already recognized as first rate.

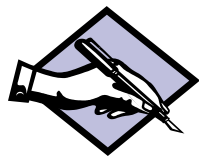
SARTAC's purpose is to recommend curriculum, review course material, identify and assist instructors, and develop new training courses at

the Search and Rescue Training Center. IDHS believes the committee's work will advance effective training for and communications between search and rescue professionals and, ultimately, enhance Indiana's search and rescue capabilities in responding to disaster situations and in other emergencies requiring search and rescue personnel.

"SARTAC has only met a few times but we expect the committee will make great contributions to advance search and rescue capabilities in Indiana," said Joe Wainscott, IDHS Division of Training Director. "Additionally, we

(continued on pg. 4)

"Last month, I had three of my K9 handlers attend your starting class at your Search and Rescue Training Center. All were very happy with the center and the classes. We all are looking forward to coming over for more classes next year!" —Ron Hall, K9 Training Officer, Tri-County Dive Rescue Team (Newark, Ohio)



From the Desk of Director Dietz

As 2005 draws to a close, all of us involved in emergency response and public safety take time to reflect upon quite a busy year.

This past year brought the Hoosier state ice, snow, floods and tornadoes - unfortunately, not exactly an unusual year. What was slightly out of the norm for our state was our extensive

response to aid our fellow Americans with hurricane recovery along the Gulf Coast. Whether at home or elsewhere, in each case, Hoosiers rose to the challenge and proved to the nation Indiana is among the best in the nation at teamwork and preparedness.

Specifically at IDHS, a department that came together in

2005 after a reorganization of Indiana's public safety and homeland security agencies, many great efforts took root in 2005. We enhanced security on the Indiana Government Center campus, concluded statewide GIS data collection, improved statewide communications for responders, advanced plans for Indiana's first Statewide

(continued on pg. 5)

For information on disaster recovery programs, contact Phil Brown, Deputy Director, IDHS Division of Emergency Response Recovery & Mitigation Branch at 317-232-3832 or pbrown@dhs.in.gov.

JFO Assists Disaster Victims

Following a major disaster, an integral part of the recovery process for storm victims is accessing assistance from state and local government. In order to expedite the process, state and federal government officials establish a Joint Field Office (JFO) to serve as a hub for the supervision, control, and administration of disaster assistance programs available after a Major Disaster Declaration by the President.

A JFO is typically in close proximity to the area affected and staffed by both federal and state personnel who work jointly to administer programs to assist in recovery efforts. Staff size varies depending upon the size and scope of the disaster.

JFO federal personnel typically include:

- *FEMA Federal Coordinating Officer*

- *FEMA Deputy Federal Coordinating Officer*
- *FEMA Public Assistance Program staff*
- *FEMA Individual Assistance Program staff*
- *FEMA Mitigation staff*
- *FEMA Legal staff*
- *FEMA Public Affairs staff*
- *FEMA Disaster Housing staff*
- *Small Business Administration staff*

JFO state personnel typically include:

- *State Coordinating Officer (or his/her designee)*
- *IDHS Individual Assistance staff*
- *IDHS Public Assistance staff*

- *IDHS Public Affairs staff*
- *IDHS Hazard Mitigation staff*

FEMA maintains responsibility for leasing, furnishing, and outfitting the JFO for operations. As part of its preparedness efforts, FEMA stockpiles supplies for JFOs and disseminates it as needed.

Depending upon the size of a disaster, a JFO is usually operational from five weeks to two months. The JFOs established as the result of Hurricane Katrina may remain open for several years.

In southern Indiana, the recovery process from the November 6 tornado that struck Vanderburgh and Warrick counties is underway. Victims of this disaster can visit the JFO currently operating in Newburgh located in the former Science and Technology Museum.



Above: Over thirty individuals participated in mandatory firefighter training in West Lafayette this past summer. The training was jointly offered by IDHS, Purdue Homeland Security Institute and Purdue University Fire Department.

Firefighter Passing Rates Improve, Curriculum Development Moves Forward

IDHS is pleased to report significantly higher passing rates with the Mandatory Certification Program for firefighters. The passing rate for October was 90 percent and the rate for November was 91.5 percent. Additionally, the average test scores were 79.9 percent and 86.5 percent respectively.

The department attributes the improved passing rates to recent improvements to the program. IDHS Division of Training, Registration and Certification Section staff examined the certification program's test questions to

determine their validity. In addition to deleting invalid questions, staff also corrected or eliminated questions containing incorrect grammar.

IDHS also continues to make progress with mandatory firefighter curriculum development. Based upon the National Fire Protection Association firefighter I certification guidelines, staff developed curriculum standards. Lesson plans, test questions, and instructional slides are currently under development. In January, IDHS Division of Training staff will

conduct a review of the final training product and will make available to all instructors the final product at no charge.

For more information on the Mandatory Certification Program, contact Tony Pagano, IDHS Division of Training, Registration & Certification Section at 317-232-3985 or tpagano@dhs.in.gov. For more information on firefighter curriculum development, contact John Buckman at 317-233-5291 or jbuckman@dhs.in.gov.

Rising Heat Costs May Trigger More Heating Fires

Caution Urged with Supplemental Heating Devices

The substantially increased cost to heat your home this winter might drive you to use supplemental heating sources whenever possible. Fireplaces and space heaters can make a room toasty, but the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) urges consumers to use caution when using these devices by thinking fire-safety first.

There were 45,500 home heating fires reported to U.S. fire departments in 2002, according to NFPA. These fires caused 220 deaths, 990 injuries and \$449 million in property damage. These numbers have generally declined over recent years, but with natural gas and oil prices expected to rise sharply from last year at this time, those who never used supplemental heating may elect to do so, possibly causing more fires.

Based on frequency of use, space heaters pose a higher risk of fire and fire death than central heating.

Fireplaces and chimneys were involved in 43 percent of all home heating fires and 11 percent of the associated deaths. Fixed and portable space heaters, including wood stoves, were involved in 25 percent of the home heating fires, but 74 percent of the associated deaths. Central heating was involved in 19 percent of home heating fires and 10 percent of the associated deaths.

Most fireplace and chimney fires were caused by creosote build-up. The leading cause of space heater fires was combustibles too close to the heaters. Central heating fires were primarily caused by mechanical failures or malfunctions.

[Heating equipment can be used safely](#) if you follow these recommendations from NFPA:

- When buying a new space heater, make sure it carries the mark of an independent

testing laboratory, and be sure to have fixed space heaters installed by a qualified technician, according to manufacturer's instructions or applicable codes. Or make sure a qualified technician checks to see that the unit has been properly installed.

- Keep or maintain a 36-inch clearance between space heaters and anything that can burn.

- Have wood and coal stoves, fireplaces, chimneys, chimney connectors and all other solid-fueled heating equipment inspected annually by a professional, and cleaned as often as inspections suggest. Use only wood that is properly seasoned to reduce creosote build-up.

Make sure your fireplace has a sturdy screen to prevent sparks from flying into the room. Allow fireplace and woodstove ashes to cool before disposing in a metal container.

- Have any gas-fueled heating device installed with proper attention to ventilation. If unvented gas space heaters are used in bedrooms or bathrooms, make sure they are small and well-mounted. NFPA codes prohibit use of liquefied petroleum gas heaters with self-contained fuel supplies.

Test smoke alarms monthly; install a carbon monoxide alarm in a central location outside each sleeping area.

NFPA has been a worldwide leader in providing fire, electrical, building, and life safety to the public since 1896. The mission of the international nonprofit organization is to reduce the worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating consensus codes and standards, research, training and education.

(Reprinted with permission from NFPA.)

IDHS Putting Finishing Touches on New Indiana Strategy for Homeland Security

IDHS took steps this month to advance a new Indiana Strategy for Homeland Security by releasing it for review to stakeholders, including the Indiana Counter-Terrorism and Security Council (CTASC) and the Indiana Homeland Security Team, the operations level group associated with CTASC. The department also discussed the strategy in October with officials from federal, state and local government, universities, private sector, and the Indiana Homeland Security Advisory Committee, a group that includes individuals representing numerous stakeholder

groups such as fire services, law enforcement, health, elected officials, emergency management, and emergency medical services.

The Indiana Strategy for Homeland Security centers on eight key concepts:

- Teamwork
- Planning and Risk Analysis
- Protect
- Outreach and Engagement

- Training and Exercise
- Response
- Medical
- Economic Security

IDHS Division of Planning staff will accept comment on the strategy from the aforementioned groups and interested parties until December 28, 2005. The department will issue the final version of the Indiana Strategy for Homeland Security by December 31, 2005.

Contact your IDHS Homeland Security District coordinator or the IDHS Division of Planning at (317) 234-2582 to obtain a draft copy of the Indiana Strategy for Homeland Security. Please submit any comments via e-mail to Diane Mack, Strategic Planning Branch Chief, IDHS Division of Planning at dmack@dhs.in.gov no later than December 28, 2005.

IDHS to Advance Search and Rescue Training

Cont'd from pg. 1

hope their work will highlight the training opportunities available at the Mari Hulman George Search and Rescue Training Center. We know professionals from around the country have been impressed by the facility but we want more Hoosier search and rescue personnel to learn how to take advantage of the opportunities in their own backyard."

The membership of SARTAC, referred to as the SARTAC Cadre, is a diverse group representing search and rescue organizations, public safety

organizations, professional and academic institutions and other organizations with search and rescue initiatives or interests. Members serve on a volunteer basis.

The next scheduled SARTAC meeting is February 25, 2006 at 5:00p.m. at Camp Atterbury. Meetings are open to the public, but due to Camp Atterbury requirements, contact Lillian Hardy, IDHS Search and Rescue Training Manager, to have your name added to the gate roster to gain access to the facility.



Above: Civil Air Patrol cadets practicing first aid at the National Emergency Academy held at the IDHS Mari Hulman George Search and Rescue Training Center.

For more information on SARTAC or the Mari Hulman George Search and Rescue Training Center, contact Lillian Hardy, IDHS Division of Training, Search and Rescue Center Training Manager at 800-200-7424 or lhardy@dhs.in.gov.

SARTAC Cadre		
Discipline	Representative	Organization/Agency
US Forest Service	Chuck Stewart	United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service
County Sheriff	Jim O'Hare, Vice Chair	Vigo County Sheriff's Department, Reserve Deputy
Cave Rescue	Anmar Mirza	National Cave Rescue Commission, Central Region
Civil Air Patrol	Gary Brockman	Civil Air Patrol, Indiana Wing Emergency Services Officer
Indiana Department of Natural Resources	Dave Windsor	DNR, Training Administrator for the Law Enforcement Division
FEMA	Tom Neal	FEMA/USAR INTF-1, Rescue Operations
Fire Service	Randy Woods	IDHS
Ground Search	Steve Martin	Hendricks County SAR
Indiana Search and Rescue Association	Tom Millen	INSARA, President
K9 Handler Air Scenting	Gary Hay	Northern Indiana SAR & INTF-1
K9 Handler Article/Evidence	Beth Hauer	DNR K9 Handler, Retired
K9 Handler Cadaver	Donna Randolph, Secretary	Midwest Search Dogs
K9 Handler Disaster	Anne McCurdy	FEMA/USAR INTF-1
K9 Handler Tracking/Trailing	Al Purdue	Spencer County EMA
Law Enforcement	Craig Patton	Indianapolis Police Department
Law Enforcement Training Specialist	Larry Barker	LETS, Certification Official
Provost Marshall	Tim Barger	Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center, Director of Emergency Services
Military	Colonel Barry Richmond	Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center
Support Services	Richard Scott,	Hope Ministries
Water Rescue	Bill Black	Dearborn County EMA

IDHS Will Offer NIMS Courses in 2006

The IDHS Division of Training will continue to offer a National Incident Management System (NIMS) course in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2006. IDHS will conduct this two-day NIMS course in seven locations across the state. Please note IDHS will not provide for lodging expenses for these courses.

The NIMS course delivered by the IDHS Division of Training incorporates the Independent Study course IS-700 NIMS Awareness, NIMS ICS-100 Incident Command System Awareness and NIMS ICS-200 Basic Incident Command System.

IDHS will also offer two "Train the Trainer" courses

for the NIMS Awareness, one at each of our training academies located at Grissom and Camp Atterbury. In order to attend the Train-the-Trainer course, participants must have already successfully completed the IS 700, ICS 100, and ICS 200 level courses. Participants who must travel more than 75 miles to attend these courses are eligible for lodging the night before the one-day course.

FEMA's Emergency Management Institute will soon provide states with guidelines and course materials on the ICS-300 and ICS-400 level courses, intermediate and advanced Incident Command respectively. IDHS will de-

velop and deliver these courses within Indiana in 2006. (Note: The ICS-300 and ICS-400 courses are not required for NIMS compliance for FFY 2006. However, emergency management personnel at the middle management, command and general staff levels should take this training, as the courses are a NIMS compliance requirement for FFY 2007.)

All personnel with a direct role in emergency preparedness, incident management, or response must complete the NIMS IS-700 by the end of FFY 2006. This is a requirement to receive federal preparedness funding in FFY 2007.

Although the IS-700 course is required by the end of FFY 2006, NIMS implementation will continue beyond 2006. NIMS is a dynamic system and its doctrine, as well as the implementation requirements, will continue to evolve as prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery capabilities improve and the homeland security landscape changes.

For more information on NIMS courses offered by IDHS, contact Heather Stegerman, IDHS Division of Training, Training Section Chief at 317-232-3984 or hstegerman@dhs.in.gov.

From the Desk of Director Dietz

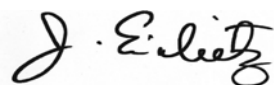
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Firefighter Training System, and initiated development of the Indiana Intelligence Fusion Center. IDHS also furthered partnerships with the Indiana National Guard to execute exercises at the Muscatatuck Urban Training Center and the Indiana State Department of Health to assist with the development of an avian flu response.

All of our efforts required teamwork among state agencies and all levels of govern-

ment. This teamwork ensures we continue to provide for the safety and security of all Hoosiers.

Thank for you for being a part of our team and for all your efforts in safeguarding your fellow citizens. I look forward to advancing our partnerships in 2006 and wish you and your families a safe and happy holiday season.



Please welcome to IDHS...

Steve Seemeyer, Homeland Security
District #2 Field Coordinator
(IDHS Division of Planning)

Dolly Watkins, Council Coordinator
(IDHS Division of Planning)

Andy Zirkle, Senior Public Information Officer
(IDHS Division of Training)

George Thompson, Division Director
(Agency Support Services)

Mark Your Calendar!



January 4

Fire & Building Safety
Commission Meeting, Indianapolis (9 a.m.)

January 7

EMS Practical (Basic), Jasper

January 14-15

Ground Search Techniques
(Awareness Level), IDHS
Mari Hulman George
Search and Rescue Training
Center

January 18

Regulated Amusement Device
Safety Board Meeting,
Indianapolis (1 p.m.)

January 28

Crime Scene Operations
(Blood Borne Pathogens),
IDHS Mari Hulman George
Search and Rescue Training
Center

IDHS offices will be
closed on:

January 2

New Year's Day Observa-
tion

January 16

Martin Luther King, Jr.
Day



The application deadline for the Commercial Equipment Direct Assistance Program (CEDAP) are due by **January 13, 2006**. For more information, visit IDHS' website Spotlight Links to view the CEDAP Phase II Briefing Book.



*Indiana Department of Homeland Security
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The Hoosier Responder is a publication of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security. Please direct any questions or comments to the IDHS Public Information and Outreach Office at 317-232-6632.